

SPECIFICATION

TITLE OF THE INVENTION

UNAUTHORIZED OPERATION JUDGMENT SYSTEM, UNAUTHORIZED
OPERATION JUDGMENT METHOD, AND UNAUTHORIZED OPERATION
JUDGMENT PROGRAM

BACKGROUND

[0001] The invention relates to an unauthorized-operation-judgment system, unauthorized-operation-judgment method and unauthorized-operation-judgment program for determining whether an operation received by a computer is an unauthorized operation.

[0002] Various techniques have been provided for preventing damage due to unauthorized operation of a computer, such as unauthorized acquisition of information stored on a computer, unauthorized access to a network from a computer, and the like. For example, methods of verifying authorization for operation using an ID and password are widely used, however, in this kind of method it is not possible to prevent unauthorized operation by an authorized person having an ID and password, or by a third party who has improperly obtained an ID and password.

[0003] In order to handle these kinds of problems, typically judgment has been performed on a rule basis by registering operation patterns for which there is a high possibility that the operation is an unauthorized operation as rules, then comparing operations received by a computer against these rules to determine the possibility that an operation is an unauthorized operation. For example, Japanese Patent Application No. 202-232451 discloses a technique in which, in the case of data that is transmitted over a network, pre-determined rules for the access right, transmission source, type of document being transmitted and the like are referenced, and when it is detected that there is a possibility that the operation is unauthorized, communication is stopped. However, in judgment on a rule basis, problems exist in that in the case of an operation for an unauthorized intention, as long as the operation is within the range of the rules, it is not judged as being an unauthorized operation; or when an unauthorized operation is executed that does not correspond

to rules that were registered in the past using a completely different method, this cannot be detected.

[0004] Therefore, methods have also been invented in which, noticing that unauthorized operation differs from everyday operation, and is an operation that occurs unusually with regard to timing, a profile is created in which behavior patterns of users are set from a log of operations of the computer, and when an operation is received by the computer, it is compared against the profiles, and the possibility that the operation is an unauthorized operation is determined. For example, Japanese Patent Application No. 2002-135248 ("the '248 Application") discloses a technique in which profiles are created from users' use of a network and unauthorized access of the network is detected, and Japanese Patent Application No. 2002-258972 ("the '972 Application") discloses a technique in which the contents of everyday operations are registered from an operation log of a computer, and an operation is determined to be an unauthorized operation when the operation does not correspond to these.

[0005] In both of the inventions disclosed in the '248 and the '972 Applications, operation patterns of the computer are set in units of computer users. For example, often in the case of a computer at a business that is used for business purposes, a plurality of accounts are set up on one computer, and use of that computer is shared among a plurality of users, so it is preferable that profiles to be used as the criteria for determining unauthorized use be set in user units. However, the following problems exist in the method of using profiles in user units.

[0006] First, in the case of performing a judgment of unauthorized operation by a management server that is connected to a plurality of computers by a network, as long as a user performs operation within the range of his or her own profile, the operation is determined to be a proper operation even though operation is performed on a computer that is different than the computer normally used. When that user uses a computer that is not normally used on the same network in order to perform some kind of unauthorized operation, for example, when an employee who has authorization to handle accounting data at the company headquarters performs an operation using accounting data on a computer in a warehouse that is not normally used, even though there is a possibility that the operation is unusual and is

unauthorized, it is not possible to determine from just a user profile that the operation is an unauthorized operation.

[0007] Also, in the case of creating profiles in user units, when a new user account is setup on a specified computer, in order to create a highly reliable profile for the new user, it is necessary to accumulate an operation log for that user, and during that time, there is a problem in that it is not possible to perform effective judgment.

[0008] In order to handle these problems, it is preferable that profiles for determining unauthorized operation be set not only in user units, but also set in computer units as well, and that judgment be performed from both aspects. In order to perform judgment it is necessary that profiles be created efficiently in both computer units and user units as the computer receives various operations.

SUMMARY

[0009] Taking into consideration the aforementioned problems, the object of the present invention is to provide an unauthorized-operation-judgment system, unauthorized-operation-judgment method and unauthorized operation-judgment program for determining whether operations received by a computer are unauthorized operations by referencing profiles in both computer units and user units.

[0010] In order to solve the aforementioned problems, this invention is an unauthorized-operation-judgment system for determining whether an operation received by a computer is an unauthorized operation, and comprises: an operation-receiver for receiving instruction data for executing the operation; a first profile-creator for creating a first profile from the instruction data related to the operation for which instruction data was received by the computer; a first profile-storer for storing the first profile that was created by the first profile-creator; a second profile-creator for identifying the user that executed the operation by the instruction data, and creating a second profile related to the operation executed by the user; a second profile-storer for storing, according to user, the second profiles created by the second profile-creator; and a score-calculator for comparing the instruction data with

at least one profile that is stored in the first profile-storer or in the second profile-storer, and calculating a score for determining whether the operation is an unauthorized operation.

[0011] According to various embodiments discussed below, profiles are created from operations received by a computer based on computer units and user units respectively, then stored, and, by comparing newly received operations with the corresponding profiles to determine whether the operation is an unauthorized operation, it is not only possible to determine whether the operation is peculiar based on the user, but is also possible to determine whether operation is peculiar for that computer. Therefore, various embodiments of the invention can handle the case in which an authorized user performs an unauthorized operation on a different computer, as well as the case in which an unauthorized operation is performed by a user for which a user profile has not yet been created.

[0012] When creating profiles, an operation from a specific user is identified by the user ID of the user that is logged in when the operation is received, or by a user ID that is included in instruction data for the received operation, and a profile can be created in user units from the operation for the identified user that is logged in to the computer. When creating profiles in computer units, profiles can be created for just operations that are performed when the user is not logged in, or profiles can be created for all operations, including those that are performed when the user is logged in.

[0013] Also the invention can comprise: a first log-data-storer for storing log data of the computer; and a second log-data-storer for storing log data according to users of the computer; wherein the first profile-creator references the first log-data-storer when creating the first profile; and the second profile-creator references the second log-data-storer when creating the second profile.

[0014] Profiles in computer units and profiles in user units define operation tendencies of the computer and user respectively, so when creating profiles it is possible to use log data, which is a history of past operations.

[0015] Moreover, this invention can comprise a login-detector for executing a process for detecting whether a certain user is logged into the computer; wherein when the login-detector detects that a certain user is logged in, the second profile-creator creates a second profile related to the user. When the login-detector does not detect that a certain user is logged in even though detection processing is executed, the first profile-creator creates a first profile related to the computer. The login-detector executes detection processing at specified intervals while the computer is in operation.

[0016] With this kind of construction, even when the operation to be used for treating a profile is not performed, it is possible to record a state that a certain user is using the computer at the instant that it is detected that the user is logged in, or to record a state that the computer is in operation in the case that it is not detected that a user is logged in, as an operation log. The operation log that is recorded in this way can be used when analyzing from the operating time the operation tendencies of the user or computer, and creating profiles.

[0017] Furthermore, the invention can also comprise: a third profile-creator for treating a third profile related to an operation executed by a user that is identified as a first-time user, when the user executing the operation by the instruction data is identified as a first-time user operating the computer for the first time; and a third profile-storer for storing third profiles that are created by the third profile-creator; wherein the score-calculator uses at least one profile that is stored in the third profile-storer instead of the second profile-storer to determine whether the operation is an unauthorized operation.

[0018] The invention can also comprise: an operation-record-storer for storing, according to user, totals related to at least one of the following: number of logins to the computer, operation time that the computer has been operated, or number of days the computer has been operated; and a first-time-user-judgment mechanism for referencing the operation-record-storer, and determining that the user executing the operation is a first-time user using the computer for the first time when the totals do not satisfy preset reference values; and wherein the third profile-creator creates a third profile for an operation executed by a user that is determined to be a first-time

user by the first-time-user-judgment mechanism; and the score-calculator uses at least one profile stored in the third profile-storer when the first-time-user-judgment mechanism determines that a user is a first-time user, to determine whether the operation is an unauthorized operation.

[0019] In the case of a first-time user that is using a computer for the first time and for which a user profile has not yet been created, it is possible to perform general unauthorized-operation judgment from profiles for the computer being operated, however, with this kind of construction, by further performing a comparison with the general operation tendencies of the first-time user, it is possible to perform even more accurate unauthorized-operation judgment. Users that can be treated as first-time users can be limited to users that are using the computer for the very first time, or it is also possible to use a general first-time user profile for the second time and more until an adequate user profile can be created. In addition to the very first time, it is possible to set rules for the period that the first-time user profile can be used, such as specifying a number of logins, specifying the operation time (for example, a total of 99 login hours), specifying the number of operation days (for example, a period of 10 days starting from the first operation), etc.

[0020] Also, in this invention, it is possible to have the score calculator calculate a score by calculating the deviation between the instruction data and data that is stored in the profiles.

[0021] Furthermore, this invention can comprise an operation-stopper for executing a process for stopping the operation when the score value exceeds a reference value. The invention can also comprise a warning-process for executing a process for displaying a warning on the operation screen of the computer, or generating a warning alarm on the computer when the score exceeds a reference value. Also, the invention can comprise a warning-notification-transmitter for sending a notification warning to the administration server operated by the administrator of the computer that there is a possibility of an unauthorized operation, when the score exceeds a reference value.

[0022] In this way, it is possible to calculate a score by calculating the deviation between instruction data for a received operation and a profile of general operation

tendencies, and determining whether or not the operation is an unauthorized operation, can be performed according to whether or not the score value exceeds a specified reference value. When it is determined that an operation is an unauthorized operation, it is possible to stop that operation, display a warning screen on the computer, or sound an warning alarm. It is also possible to notify the administrator via a network that an unauthorized operation has occurred.

[0023] The present invention can also be realized as a unauthorized-operation-judgment method that uses the respective forms of construction of the unauthorized-operation-judgment system explained above. The invention could also be realized as an unauthorized-operation-judgment program that uses the respective forms of construction of the unauthorized-operation-judgment system. The procedure for the aforementioned unauthorized-operation-judgment method and unauthorized-operation-judgment program differs depending on whether the unauthorized-operation judgment is performed using a profile that is stored in the computer, or whether the judgment is performed using a profile that is stored in another computer that is connected via a network.

[0024] In other words, a first unauthorized-operation-judgment method of the invention is an unauthorized-operation-judgment method for determining whether an operation received by a computer is an unauthorized operation, and comprising: a step whereby the computer receives instruction data to execute the operation; a step whereby the computer creates a first profile related to the operation for which instruction data was received by the computer, and stores the first profile in a first profile-storage unit; a step whereby the computer identifies the user that executed the operation by the instruction data, creates a second profile related to the operation executed by the user and stores the profile in a second profile-storage unit; and a step whereby the computer compares the instruction data with at least one profile that is stored in the first profile-storage unit or in the second profile-storage unit, and calculates a score for determining whether the operation is an unauthorized operation.

[0025] A second unauthorized-operation-judgment method of the invention is an unauthorized-operation-judgment method for determining whether an operation

received by a computer is an unauthorized operation, and comprising: a step whereby the computer receives instruction data for executing the operation; a step whereby the computer creates a first profile related to the operation for which the instruction data is received by the computer, and sends the profile to a first: profile-storage unit; a step whereby the computer identifies the user that executed the operation by the instruction data, creates a second profile related to the operation executed by the user, and sends the profile to a second profile-storage unit; and a step whereby the computer obtains at least one profile from the first profile-storage unit or the second profile-storage unit, compares the instruction data with the profile(s), and calculates a score for determining whether the operation is an unauthorized operation.

[0026] Also, a first unauthorized-operation-judgment program of the invention is an unauthorized-operation-judgment program for determining whether an operation received by a computer is an unauthorized operation, and causes the computer to execute: a step of receiving instruction data for executing the operation; a step of creating a first profile related to the operation for which instruction data was received by the computer, and storing the first profile in a first profile-storage unit; a step of identifying the user that executed the operation by the instruction data, creating a second profile related to the operation executed by the user and storing the profile in a second profile-storage unit; and a step of comparing the instruction data with at least one profile that is stored in the first profile-storage unit or in the second profile-storage unit, and calculating a score for determining whether the operation is an unauthorized operation.

[0027] Moreover, a second unauthorized-operation-judgment program of the invention is an unauthorized-operation-judgment program for determining whether an operation received by a computer is an unauthorized operation, and causes the computer to execute: a step of receiving instruction data for executing the operation; a step of creating a first profile related to the operation for which the instruction data is received by the computer, and sending the profile to a first profile-storage unit; a step of identifying the user that executed the operation by the instruction data, creating a second profile related to the operation executed by the user, and sending

the profile to a second profile-storage unit; and a step of obtaining at least one profile from the first profile-storage unit or the second profile-storage unit, comparing the instruction data with the profile(s), and calculating a score for determining whether the operation is an unauthorized operation.

[0028] With this invention, together with being able to determine whether or not a peculiar operation is an unauthorized operation for a computer that is unable to perform the determination on a rule basis, it is also possible to perform judgment from peculiar operation based not only on the user, but also from peculiar operation of the computer. Therefore, it is possible to cope with cases in which an authorized user performs an unauthorized operation on a different computer or in which a new user for which a user profile has not yet been created performs an unauthorized operation, so it is possible to greatly increase the security of a computer against unauthorized operation.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[0029] The invention is explained in more detail below with reference to various preferred embodiments and as illustrated by the following drawings.

- FIG. 1 is a block diagram showing an overview of the unauthorized operation judgment system according to various embodiments of the invention;
- FIG. 2 is a block diagram showing a first embodiment of the unauthorized operation judgment system of the invention;
- FIG. 3 is a block diagram showing a second embodiment of the unauthorized operation judgment system of the invention;
- FIG. 4 is a block diagram showing the construction of the unauthorized operation judgment system according to various embodiments of the invention;
- FIG. 5 is a flow diagram showing a first pattern for creating node profiles and user profiles by the unauthorized operation judgment system according to various embodiments of the invention;

FIG. 6 is a flow diagram showing a second pattern for treating node profiles and user profiles by the unauthorized operation judgment system according to various embodiments of the invention; and

FIGS. 7A-C is a flowchart showing the flow of the unauthorized operation judgment system according to various embodiments of the invention.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

[0030] The preferred embodiments of the invention will be explained in detail below using the drawings. In the explanation below, determining unauthorized operation will be mainly explained for an example of a computer that is connected to a network, however, this is just one example of an embodiment of the invention. The invention is not limited by this embodiment, and could just as well be applied to a computer that is used as a stand alone computer.

[0031] FIG. 1 is a drawing showing an overview of the unauthorized operation judgment system according to various embodiments of the invention. FIG. 2 and FIG. 3 are block diagrams that respectively show a first and second embodiment of the unauthorized operation judgment system of the invention. FIG. 4 is a block diagram showing the construction of the unauthorized operation judgment system of various embodiments of the invention. FIG. 5 and FIG. 6 are drawings respectively showing a first and second pattern for creating node profiles and user profiles by the unauthorized operation judgment system according to various embodiments of the invention. FIG. 7A-C is a flowchart showing the flow of the unauthorized operation judgment system of various embodiments of the invention.

[0032] An overview of the unauthorized operation judgment system is explained with reference to FIG. 1. In the example shown in FIG. 1, the unauthorized operation judgment system is installed in a client PC that is connected to a network. The client PC is used by a plurality of users, and accounts are setup corresponding to each user.

[0033] When a user executes some kind of operation on the client PC, that client PC learns the tendency of the operations received and the tendency of the operations executed by that user, and creates a node profile and user profile. Of the profiles that are created in this way, node profiles are stored in a node-profile-state table, and user profiles are stored in user-profile-state tables for each user.

[0034] After a profile is created for an operation executed by a user, a judgment is performed to determine whether that operation is an unusual operation. The judgment is executed by referencing the node profiles stored in the node-profile-state table, and the user profile for the corresponding user that is stored in the user-profile-state table and performing deviation calculation between that operation and a normal operation pattern. Depending on the contents of the operation, the tables that are referenced can be for both node profiles and user profiles, or can be for just one or the other.

[0035] The results of the deviation calculation are calculated as a score value that indicates the possibility that the operation may be an unauthorized operation. By setting a fixed reference value for the score value, it is possible to designate that a preset action be executed when the score value exceeds the reference value and there is a high possibility that the operation is an unauthorized operation, such as performing a process to interrupt the operation, displaying a warning on the display, sending a notification to the administrator or the like.

[0036] The unauthorized operation judgment system can be used when a computer is used as a stand alone computer, or when a computer is connected to a network and used. In the latter case, the client PC can perform an unauthorized operation judgment on its own, or the client PC can perform an unauthorized operation judgment in cooperation with an unauthorized operation monitoring server. FIG. 2 shows a first embodiment of the unauthorized operation judgment system in which a client PC performs an unauthorized operation judgment on its own, and FIG. 3 shows a second embodiment of the unauthorized operation judgment system in which a client PC performs an unauthorized operation judgment in cooperation with an unauthorized operation judgment server.

[0037] The novel unauthorized operation judgment system shown in FIG. 2 is installed in the processing apparatus 210 of a user terminal 20, and it determines whether or not an operation received by the user terminal 20 is an unauthorized operation. The function of the unauthorized operation judgment system is executed by a learning program 10 and an unauthorized operation judgment program 11 that are stored in, e.g., the hard disk drive (HDD) 214 of the processing apparatus 210. It is possible to use another kind of memory medium that can store the programs, such as a flash memory or the like, instead of the HDD 214 of the processing apparatus 210.

[0038] First, after the power has been turned ON to the user terminal 20, various basic programs that are stored in ROM 213 are activated in order to perform hardware control, such as input and output control, and the operation system of the computer is read from the HDD 214 and activated. Also, together with this, the learning program 10 and unauthorized operation judgment program 11 are read from the HDD 214 and activated, and the CPU 211 performs computation using RAM 212 as a work area.

[0039] By taking events executed by some operations such as writing to IDE (Integrated Drive Electronics, interface standards between a personal computer and HDD, CD-ROM drive or the like), the learning program 10 and unauthorized operation judgment program 11 execute processing to learn and perform unauthorized operation judgment of the events. The learning program 10 and unauthorized operation judgment program 11 can also monitor data that is written to an externally connected bus 22, and execute a learning and unauthorized operation judgment process as an operation that is executed for an output apparatus 23 or external memory apparatus 24. The learning program 10 and unauthorized operation judgment program 11 can also monitor data that is sent to a network by the processing apparatus 210, and execute a learning and unauthorized operation judgment process for data that is sent or received over a network.

[0040] The learning process compares a received operation with log data that is stored in a log-data-storage unit 14, analyzes the tendency of the operation, creates profiles from the analysis results and stores a profile for the entire operation that

does not identify the user of the user terminal 20 in a node-profile-storage unit 12, and stores a profile that identifies the user in a user-profile-storage unit 13. The unauthorized operation judgment process references the node-profile-storage unit 12 for general judgment of the user terminal 20, and references the user-profile-storage unit 13 for judgment of an individual user.

[0041] In this way, the node-profile-storage unit 12 and user-profile-storage unit 13 that store profiles to be used in the unauthorized operation judgment can be located inside the user terminal 20, or, as in the case of the second embodiment shown in FIG. 3, they can be located in the HDD 314 of an unauthorized operation judgment server 30 that is connected to the user terminal 20 over a network. The unauthorized operation judgment system can be used to perform judgment by using profiles as well as perform judgment on a general rule basis; however, in the second embodiment, a plurality of user terminals are connected to an unauthorized operation judgment server 30 that stores a large amount of profiles, and rules to be used for general purposes in a network can be created from these profiles and stored in a general-purpose-rule-storage unit 16. Also, it is not shown in the example of FIG. 3, however, the function of the learning program 10 and unauthorized operation judgment program 11 can be located on the side of the unauthorized operation judgment server 30 as well.

[0042] The relationship between each of the functions of the unauthorized operation judgment system will be explained using FIG. 4. First, when the user terminal 20 executes an operation, the data-learning unit 100 receives the data for executing that operation. The data-learning unit 100 references the log-data-storage unit 14 and creates a profile which will become the basis of the peculiar operation judgment.

[0043] When that operation is performed without logging into the user account, such as when turning ON or OFF the power supply, the data-learning unit 100 references general log data for the user terminal 20 in the log-data-storage unit 14 that does not identify the user, then creates a general profile for the user terminal 20 that does not identify the user and stores the profile in the node-profile-storage unit 12.

[0044] On the other hand, when the operation is an operation that is executed after logging into a certain user account, the data-learning unit 100 identifies the user corresponding to the account using a user ID or the like, and references the log for that user in the log-data-storage unit 14, then creates a profile identifying the user and stores that profile in a table related to that user in the user-profile-storage unit 13.

[0045] When the same user executes a plurality of operations in the logged in state, the user is identified for each operation using the user ID that identified the user when logging in as a key, and a profile is created. When identifying a user, the user ID that identified the user when logging in can be stored in the computation area of the RAM 212 during the time that the user continues to be logged in, and when creating a profile this ID can be read, or, in the logged in state, it is also possible to attach a header, which identifies the user, to the instruction data that instructs that an operation be executed, and to identify the user with that header as a key. For an operation for which the user has been identified, when that operation is received by the same computer, it is also possible to create a general profile for the user terminal 20 that does not identify the user, and store it in the node-profile-storage unit 12.

[0046] Next, a peculiar-operation-judgment unit 110 references the corresponding profile to determine whether there is a possibility that the data for executing the operation is for an unauthorized operation. When the operation is an operation that does not identify the user, the profiles stored in the node-profile-storage unit 12 are referenced, and when the operation is an operation that identifies the user, the profile stored in the user-profile-storage unit 13 corresponding to that user is referenced, and judgment is performed to determine whether or not that operation is a peculiar operation.

[0047] The peculiar-operation judgment is performed by calculating the deviation between the received operation and the corresponding profile. It is possible to use various kinds of data that can be given a numerical value, such as the time schedule or criteria for the operation that is received, frequency of the operation, amount of data required for the process, or the like.

[0048] After the peculiar-operation-judgment unit 110 executes the deviation calculation, a score-calculation unit 111 calculates the possibility that the operation is an unauthorized operation as a score. The score can be set according to the amount of deviation from the profile that was calculated by deviation calculation, and by setting a fixed reference value for the calculated score, it is possible to determine that the operation is an unauthorized operation when the score is greater than the reference value, and then designate to execute a process to interrupt that operation.

[0049] In an embodiment, the data-learning unit 100, peculiar-operation-judgment unit 110, and score-calculation unit 111 described above are not physically separated, but are included as a program for executing each of the processes in the learning program 10 or unauthorized-operation-judgment program 11 that are stored in the HDD 214, and they are read in order by the CPU 211 that executes computation using the RAM 212 as a work area.

[0050] Also, in the explanation above, a peculiar-operation judgment is performed after an operation is received and learning has been performed, however, processing is not limited to this order, and it is also possible to perform learning for the operation after the operation has been received and peculiar-operation judgment has been performed, and then create a new profile.

[0051] Next, FIG. 5 and FIG. 6 show, in detail, examples of two patterns of the procedure for creating node profiles and user profiles by the unauthorized-operation-judgment system. FIG. 5 is a drawing showing a first pattern for creating a node profile for an operation for which the user is not identified, and creating a user profile for an operation for which the user is identified. FIG. 6 is a drawing showing a second pattern for creating a node profile for all operations, and for creating a user profile for an operation for which the user is identified.

[0052] In the first pattern shown in FIG. 5, after the power to the computer has been turned ON and the operation system has been started up, the unauthorized-operation-judgment system is started. Here, the operation of turning ON the power to the computer is taken to be an event, and a profile related to the start-up time of the computer is created, however, at this time, the user is not logged in and cannot

be identified, so a general profile related to that computer is created as a node profile.

[0053] Next, when the user 1 that started the computer logs in to his/her own account, the operation of the user 1 logging in is taken to be an event, and a profile related to that user 1 is created. It is possible to take various operations that are performed while the user 1 is logged in, such as starting up applications or operations, accessing a network, printing and the like as events, and from these events as well, profiles related to the user 1 are created. When the user 1 logs out, it is also possible to create a profile for the user 1 for the operation of logging out.

[0054] In the case that another operation such as turning ON/OFF the power is performed during the time after the user 1 has logged out until another user logs in, a node profile is created for that operation as an operation that does not identify the user. After that, when the user 2 logs in, a profile for that user 2 is created in the same way as was done for the user 1. The profile for the user 2 is distinguished from the profile for the user 1 by a user ID or the like, and is stored in a different table.

[0055] When determining whether an operation received by the computer is an unauthorized operation, according to the same classification as described above, a node profile is used when the user is not identified, and a user profile corresponding to the user is used when the user is identified. To identify the profiles that correspond to each of the users, it is possible to use a user ID or the like that is received at the time of login.

[0056] In the second pattern shown in FIG. 6, user profiles are created for each user for operations received in the state in which the user is identified, and a node profile, which does not identify users, is created for the computer as well. Even when the operation is an operation for which the user is identified, since that computer received the operation, all operations that are received after turning ON that computer until the computer is turned OFF can be the object of a node profile.

[0057] Also, even when operations that become the object of creating a profile are not yet executed, it is possible to use the fact that the state of the computer

being turned ON, or that the state of an identified user being logged in is continuing for creating a profile. In order to do that, it is possible to activate a program for performing a process at a frequency of once every hour, for example, it is possible to detect whether the power is turned ON and whether an identified user is logged in, then create a profile from that result.

[0058] In either of the patterns explained above and shown in FIG. 5 and FIG. 6, it is assumed that only one user is logged in, however, when the operation system is set, for example, so that it is possible for there to be a plurality of users logged in to one computer, and when operations are performed at the same time by a plurality of users, it is possible to set that the process of creating user profiles and the process of using those user profiles to perform unauthorized-operation judgment be performed at the same time for a plurality of users. For a node profile as well, it is possible to perform the process of creating the profile and using that profile to perform unauthorized-operation judgment at the same time for all operations by each of the respective users.

[0059] The flow of the unauthorized-operation-judgment system of this invention will be explained using the flowchart shown in FIGS. 7A-C. The flow explained below is just an example of the processing flow of the unauthorized-operation judgment system according to various embodiments of this invention, and the invention is not limited to the order of creating profiles and calculating scores, whether or not to create node profiles for operations by identified users, etc., as described in the example of flow below.

[0060] First, after the power to the computer is turned ON and the unauthorized-operation-judgment system is started up, a node profile is created for the operation of starting the computer S01. The created node profile is stored in the node-file-state table S02.

[0061] Next, when starting up the computer, the operation related to turning the power ON is compared with the node profile related to turning the power ON to the computer that is stored in the node-profile-state table, deviation calculation is executed S03, and a score is calculated S04. The calculated score is compared with a preset reference value S05, and when the score is greater than the reference

value there is a high possibility that the operation is an unauthorized operation and processing is executed to stop the operation, or more specifically, the process for starting the computer is stopped S06.

[0062] On the other hand, when the score is less than the reference value, the operation is received and continues as is. When login for a certain user is received S07, the user ID for the logged-in user is identified S08. A user profile is created for the user that performed the login S09, and the created user profile is stored in a user-profile-state table that corresponds to the user ID of that user S10.

[0063] Next, when that user logs in, the operation of the login of that user is compared with a user profile related to login that is stored in the user-profile-state table that corresponds to that user, deviation calculation is executed S11, and a score is calculated S12. The calculated score is compared with a preset reference value S13, and when the score is greater than the reference value there is a high possibility that the operation is an unauthorized operation, and processing is executed to stop the operation, or more specifically, the process of receiving the login is stopped S14.

[0064] On the other hand, when the score is less than the reference value, the operation is received and continues as is. The logged-in user executes processing such as various applications, and the unauthorized-operation-judgment system detects activation of a new application by monitoring writing to the IDE S15. Monitoring continues when there is no writing to the IDE, and when writing to the IDE is detected, a user profile related to the process executed by the written data is created S16, and the created user profile is stored in a user-profile-state table that corresponds to the user ID of that user S17. Activation of an application is detected by monitoring writing to the IDE, however, it is also possible to monitor the memory space that is used as the work area for an application, and detect when a new operation is performed.

[0065] Next, after that user logs in, an operation related to the start up of an application or the like performed by that user is compared with a user profile related to startup of an application that is stored in the user-profile-state table corresponding to that user, a deviation calculation is executed S18, and a score is calculated S19.

The calculated score is compared with a preset reference value S20, and when the score is greater than the reference value there is a high possibility that the operation is an unauthorized operation, and a process for stopping the operation, or more specifically, a process of interrupting the application is executed S21. On the other hand, when the score is less than the reference value, monitoring of writing to the IDE continues S15.

[0066] For the purposes of promoting an understanding of the principles of the invention, reference has been made to the preferred embodiments illustrated in the drawings, and specific language has been used to describe these embodiments. However, no limitation of the scope of the invention is intended by this specific language, and the invention should be construed to encompass all embodiments that would normally occur to one of ordinary skill in the art.

[0067] The present invention may be described in terms of functional block components and various processing steps. Such functional blocks may be realized by any number of hardware and/or software components configured to perform the specified functions. For example, the present invention may employ various integrated circuit components, e.g., memory elements, processing elements, logic elements, look-up tables, and the like, which may carry out a variety of functions under the control of one or more microprocessors or other control devices. Similarly, where the elements of the present invention are implemented using software programming or software elements the invention may be implemented with any programming or scripting language such as C, C++, Java, assembler, or the like, with the various algorithms being implemented with any combination of data structures, objects, processes, routines or other programming elements. Furthermore, the present invention could employ any number of conventional techniques for electronics configuration, signal processing and/or control, data processing and the like.

[0068] The particular implementations shown and described herein are illustrative examples of the invention and are not intended to otherwise limit the scope of the invention in any way. For the sake of brevity, conventional electronics, control systems, software development and other functional aspects of the systems

(and components of the individual operating components of the systems) may not be described in detail. Furthermore, the connecting lines, or connectors shown in the various figures presented are intended to represent exemplary functional relationships and/or physical or logical couplings between the various elements. It should be noted that many alternative or additional functional relationships, physical connections or logical connections may be present in a practical device. Moreover, no item or component is essential to the practice of the invention unless the element is specifically described as "essential" or "critical". Numerous modifications and adaptations will be readily apparent to those skilled in this art without departing from the spirit and scope of the present invention.